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Message Text

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ACTION DHA-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 ORM-02 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 /087 W
----------171416Z 064724 /44
R 171003Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8295
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMCONSUL UDORN
CINCPAC HONOLULU

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 1243

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR SREF TH VN
SUBJECT: INCIDENT AT VIETNAMESE REFUGEE CAMP

1. TROUBLE BROKE OUT JANUARY 12 IN REFUGEE CAMP AT SIKHIU, NEAR KORAT, WHICH CONTAINED APPROX 1,300 VIETNAMESE (MANY FROM LAOS) AT THE END F 1976. STORY OF WHAT HAPPENED IS FAR FROM CLEAR, BUT IT APPEARS THAT THAI GUARDS, INVESTIGATING UNAUTHORIZED DEPARTURE OF VIETNAMESE GIRL FROM CAMP, JAILED AND BEAT TWO BOYS ON CHARGES OF STEALING A RADIO. WHEN RELEASED AND IN SERIOUS CONDITION, THEY WERE UNABLE TO OBTAIN MEDICAL ATTENTION. AFTER PROTESTING UNSUCCESSFULLY, PEOPLE BARRICADED THEMSELVES IN HOUSES, AT WHICH POINT GUARDS SEEM TO HAVE BEGUN BREAKING LOCKS AND BEATING REFUGEES (RATHER THAN FIRING ON THEM, ALTHOUGH THIS IS NOT YET COMPLETELY CERTAIN). ONE MAN DIED, OSTENSIBLY FROM HEART ATTACK BUT PROBABLY AS RESULT OF INJURIES. NUMBER OF WOUNDED IS UNKNOWN, ESTIMATES VARYING GREATLY BETWEEN A FEW AND HUNDREDS. A UNHCR REP WHO VISITED CAMP JANUARY 15
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SAID THAT PEOPLE PANICKY BUT THINGS WERE BECOMING CALMER.

2. IN RESPONSE TO AP QUERY, MOI SPOKESMAN ADMITTED THAT ONE VIETNAMESE HAS BEEN ARRESTED AND TEN INJURED, GIVING NO FURTHER EXPLANATION. AN OFFICIAL ADMITTED PRIVATELY THAT THERE WAS DAMAGE TO THE CAMP.

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3. UNHCR HAS ADVISED EMBASSY THAT RTG IS EMBARRASSED OVER
THE INCIDENT AND HAS SENT SOMEONE TO SIKHIU TO INVESTIGATE
WHAT HAPPENED. UNHCR HAS BEEN INVITED TO JOIN HIM AND
HAS ACCEPTED. CONSUL UDORN WILL ALSO VISIT CAMP THIS WEEK.

4. PUBLICITY OF INCIDENT IS SURE TO INSPIRE SRV TO
TURN UP THE LEVAL OF HOSTILITY ON ITS ANTI-RTG PROPAGANDA,
WHICH HAS BEEN RATHER LOW KEY, BUT FREQUENT,
LATELY.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES, CIVIL DISORDERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BANGKO01243
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770016-1052
Format: TEL
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770147/aaaaboyk.tel
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3585328
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INCIDENT AT VIETNAMESE REFUGEE CAMP
TAGS: PFOR, SREF, TH, VN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/dfdbf2d8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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